

## HONORING GREYSON FREDETTE

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 15, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to an inspiring young man in Durango, Colorado. Despite facing extraordinary physical adversity, Greyson Fredette has shown perseverance in overcoming the odds and flourishing despite being challenged by a rare disease. I rise today to recognize Greyson for his inspirational efforts and remarkable accomplishments.

Greyson is a rising senior at Durango High School who battles an extremely rare disease known as ataxia-telangiectasia, or "A-T." A-T is a progressive, degenerative condition that results in decreased muscle control, including everything from an individual's legs to his eyes. While Greyson's condition does not allow him to walk, it does not preclude him from exercising his muscles through weightlifting. In fact, while he enjoys pottery and Spanish, Greyson cites weightlifting as his favorite class. Furthermore, even though his condition makes reading difficult, Greyson excels academically and has qualified for the honor roll.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Greyson Fredette today for his bravery and the example he has set within his community. He embodies the courage and strength of spirit that have made our nation strong. I commend Greyson for his hard work and determination and wish him all the best with his future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF FORMER MICHIGAN STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
PETER KOK**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 15, 2003*

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, today I want to honor someone whom I consider to be the ideal public servant and one of the finest legislators I ever met—Peter Kok of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who died Sunday, June 22, 2003 at the age of 83.

Peter Kok's obituary appeared in papers around the world in the week following his death, and with good reason. It was his refusal to bomb a defenseless and innocent village in northern Italy while a captain in the Army Air Force during World War II that became the basis for Joseph Heller's famous 1961 novel, *Catch 22*, and the subsequent 1968 movie of the same name. Rather than bomb the village, he dropped his B-25's payload on an open field outside the village and the rest of the bombers in his command followed suit.

For his heroism in completing 67 bombing missions over Italy and southern France as a member of the 488th Bomb Squad of the 340th Bomb Group, Peter received the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Airmen's Medal and a Purple Heart.

After the war, Peter returned to Grand Rapids and established a real estate brokerage

firm. Later, he decided to jump into the political fray by running for the Michigan State House of Representatives in 1964, defeating two incumbents in a primary; he was then re-elected to a total of seven terms before retiring from public office in 1978.

Peter Kok became a champion for open housing legislation that prohibited so-called "redlining." Other pet causes included mental health services, special education and environmental legislation—all before these causes became popular issues.

As I said before, Mr. Speaker, Peter Kok was the ideal public servant. He was decent, honest and a truly superb legislator. I had the pleasure of working with him when I was a member of the Kent County Board of Commissioners and later had the honor of holding his former seat in the Michigan House a few years after his retirement.

For those who remember Peter Kok as a pilot, as a real estate agent or as a legislator, we all mourn his loss, and we offer our condolences to his family.

HONORING CHIEF LOUIS E. KELLY  
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE  
ELIZABETH FIRE DEPARTMENT  
AFTER 33 YEARS OF SERVICE**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 15, 2003*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Louis E. Kelly on his retirement from the Elizabeth, New Jersey Fire Department, and to congratulate him for 33 years of dedicated and courageous service to his community.

Chief Kelly's impressive career began in November, 1969, as a Probationary Firefighter in Ladder Company 3 of the Elizabeth Fire Department. In 1977, he became Fire Captain of Rescue Ladder 1, and in 1986, Battalion Chief. After being promoted to Deputy Fire Chief in 1993, he served as Acting Chief from 1995–1996, and was appointed to Chief of the Department in April, 1999. For the last nine years, Chief Kelly has also served as a Deputy Mutual Aid Coordinator for Union County.

Over the years, the Elizabeth Fire Department and Chief Kelly have been the recipients of many commendations, recognitions, and awards. Chief Kelly is a three-time recipient of the Valor Award from the 200 Club of Union County, and has received two Heroism and Community Service Awards from Firehouse Magazine for his heroism and dedication. The Elizabeth Fire Department has awarded him three Class 1 awards, four Class 2 awards, and four Unit Citations. He is the twelfth chief of the Elizabeth Fire Department, which began officially in 1902 and replaced the volunteer fire department.

Under the leadership of Chief Kelly, the Elizabeth Fire Department gave its all in the recovery efforts after September 11, 2001, an event which Chief Kelly noted, "proved no entity can handle every situation on its own." The tragic events of that day demonstrated the Department's commitment and courage, which will never be forgotten.

Chief Kelly will be remembered for his love for and dedication to his community, both as a coach for Elmora Youth League and for the

Saint Genevieve's Parish, and his many other community activities.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Chief Louis E. Kelly for his years of service to the Elizabeth Fire Department and the City of Elizabeth.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2003*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2658) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004; and for other purposes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, today we are voting to fund the U.S. military to meet its future needs. Our duty to our servicemen and women is to provide them with the tools and the means to protect and defend our nation as well as protect them when in conflict. An issue that has persisted to be unsatisfactorily addressed by Congress is the endangerment of our soldiers and civilians—especially children—from the unexploded remnants of cluster munitions. These munitions disperse thousands of small grenades into areas of conflict that include battlefields but too often also include urban and rural areas inhabited by civilians.

Cluster weapons have been used by U.S. military forces in conflict areas including Laos, the Persian Gulf, Kosovo, Afghanistan, and most recently during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Unlike other military weapons, cluster bombs have a failure rate that can reach as high as 40 percent, leaving a trail of thousands of unexploded ordinance that cause death and destruction for our soldiers and civilian populations alike. This unexploded ordinance creates an extremely hazardous environment for soldiers patrolling the areas, future peacekeepers and civilians who unwittingly pick these weapons up or step on them—most frequently children.

In Kosovo in 1999, five children playing with the colorful unexploded sub-munitions were killed. In Iraq, a child's eyes were blown out when a grenade he was playing with near his Baghdad home exploded in his face. Another young Iraqi man brought a grenade into his home, where it exploded, injuring the man severely and killing his 8-month old sister, who had been resting on the living-room floor.

U.S. soldiers are in similar danger. As our troops in Iraq canvass the region, they encounter thousands of unexploded cluster grenades on the roads, in the homes and in the hands of the Iraqi people. It has made their job much more difficult, and in the case of Army Sergeant Troy Jenkins, has cost them their lives. Sergeant Jenkins was killed in Iraq when, after encountering a child who was handling a cluster weapon, the weapon exploded.

The Department of Defense has correctly identified the problem of unexploded cluster bombs and is taking steps to ensure these weapons are safe. In 2001, then Defense Secretary William Cohen issued a Pentagon-wide memorandum calling on the Department to